

**Amendment to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of all claims:**

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4. (currently amended)      A handrail assembly adapted for use with a stairway, comprising:

a handrail having a generally wavy shape; and

means for mounting said handrail obliquely along a stairway to provide an alternating combination of generally horizontally disposed portions and generally vertically disposed portions, said generally vertically disposed portions being adapted to be grasped by a user without bending his or her wrist forwardly in ascending a flight of stairs, said generally horizontally disposed portions being adapted to be grasped by the user without bending his or her wrist forwardly in descending the flight of stairs;

stairs; and

wherein said handrail is mounted relative to the stairway so that each of the generally horizontally and vertically disposed portions is disposed generally above a step and a riser of the stairway, respectively.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6. (original)      The handrail assembly as defined in claim 4 wherein said generally horizontally disposed portions of the handrail have a width greater than said generally vertically disposed portions so that the user can grasp and lean on said generally horizontally disposed portions for support in descending the flight of stairs.

Claim 7 (currently amended)      The handrail assembly as defined in ~~claim 4 or 5~~ claim 4 wherein said handrail includes an anti-slip means provided thereon.

Claim 8 (currently amended)      The handrail assembly as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 7 wherein said anti-slip means comprises a plurality of grooves extending longitudinally of the handrail.

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claims 10 - 11 (withdrawn)